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**SIERRA NEVADA**  
C O N S E R V A N C Y



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**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY  
PROPOSITION 84 GRANTS PROGRAM**

**FUNDED BY THE  
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River  
and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006**

**FINAL  
GRANTS GUIDELINES**  
Fiscal Year 2008/09

*The Sierra Nevada Conservancy initiates, encourages, and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities, and the citizens of California.*

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## I. Introduction

California voters passed Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coast Protection Bond Act of 2006 (the Act) on November 7, 2006. Proposition 84 added Section 75050 to the Public Resources Code (PRC), authorizing the State to issue bonds, and the Legislature to appropriate the proceeds, for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. Section 75050 (j) allocates \$54 million of these funds for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC).

The Laird-Leslie Sierra Nevada Conservancy Act, enacted in 2004 and commencing with PRC Section 33300, established the SNC, and Sections 33343 and 33346 set forth the authority for the SNC to award grants of funds in order to carry out the purposes of the Act. The SNC has adopted a Strategic Plan and Program Guidelines in accordance with the Act; these provide general direction for the SNC's activities and serve as the basis for these Grants Guidelines.

These Grants Guidelines establish the process used by the SNC to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and authorize grants under the SNC Grants Program from Proposition 84. A [Glossary of Terms](#) is provided at the end of this document.

Grant funds will be allocated in two grant categories, Competitive Grants and Strategic Opportunity Grants (SOGs). These guidelines explain the scope of, and the requirements for, each type of grant.

In Fiscal Year 2007-08, \$17 million from Proposition 84 was appropriated to the SNC for grant purposes. Subject to enactment of the state budget, for Fiscal Year 2008-09 the funds will be allocated as follows:

- Approximately \$7 million will be allocated through Competitive Grants across the SNC Region to meet the purposes of the SNC.
- Approximately \$6 million will be allocated as SOGs to eligible applicants to address needs across the six Subregions (\$1 million will be allocated for each Subregion).
- Approximately \$1 million in SOGs will be allocated to projects that have Region-wide significance.
- Approximately \$3 million may be allocated by the SNC Board among the grant categories, based on a determination of the greatest opportunity to achieve the SNC mission. This allocation may occur following the processing of initial grant applications in September 2008.

SOGs will be awarded in two rounds, with the intent to award roughly half of the funding in each of the two rounds for each Subregion and the Region-wide allocation.

The SNC will award grants with the primary aim of achieving tangible “on the ground” impacts, consistent with the terms of Proposition 84 (see above) and the SNC’s program

goals. It is expected that the grants will include a variety of site improvement/restoration and acquisition projects. At the same time, the SNC recognizes the value of activities which prepare for, or create the context for, other natural resource protection and restoration efforts. In specific cases, such activities may include educational efforts and community capacity-building within the Region. The SNC will strive to achieve a balance of projects best suited to further the SNC mission and the goals of Proposition 84.

The SNC will make every effort, subject to the programmatic limitations of Proposition 84, to ensure that, over time, funds are spread equitably across each of the Subregions and among the program areas, with adequate allowance for variability of costs among the various Subregions and types of projects. In doing so, the SNC recognizes the focus of Proposition 84 may result in some program areas receiving a disproportionate share of resources.

Three Grants Application Packets (GAPs) accompany these Grants Guidelines, and include information and forms needed for each category of grant application. Sample grant agreements for each of the Proposition 84 project types are provided at: [http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html) for applicants who want more information about the administrative requirements once a grant is authorized.

**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY  
Proposition 84 Grants Guidelines  
FY 08-09**

**Competitive Grants**

- \$7 million for entire SNC Region
- Application deadline September 15, 2008
- For grants between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000
- Eligible project types include acquisition and site improvement/restoration
- Authorized by SNC Board in March 2009

**Strategic Opportunity Grants (SOGs)**

- \$1 million per Subregion (\$6 million total)
- \$1 million for projects of Region-wide significance
- Application deadlines September 2, 2008 and February 27, 2009
- Authorized by SNC Board in December 2008 and June 2009

**SOG Category 1 (SOG 1)**

- For grants \$5,000 to \$250,000
- For acquisition and site improvement/restoration projects only
- Authorized by the SNC Board

**SOG Category 2 (SOG 2)**

- For grants up to \$500,000
- For projects that do not include acquisition or site improvement/restoration
- Authorized by the SNC Board (or by Executive Officer for time-sensitive grants up to \$50,000)

**NOTE: Approximately \$3 million may be allocated by the Board among grant categories following the processing of initial grant applications in September 2008.**

## II. General Program Information

### A. Grant Program Requirements

The funding available for grants by the SNC under Proposition 84 is to be used for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. Consistent with its statutory authority and the terms of Proposition 84, the SNC will fund projects that address one or more of the program areas listed below:

- Provide increased opportunities for tourism and recreation
- Protect, conserve, and restore the Region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources
- Aid in the preservation of working landscapes
- Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires
- Protect and improve water and air quality
- Assist the Regional economy through the operation of the SNC's program
- Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public

All grants must provide direct benefits for the Sierra Nevada Region, as defined by PRC Section 33302 (f); see [Appendix A](#) for definition.

### B. Eligible Applicants

Grant funds may be authorized for:

- **public agencies** (any city, county, district, or joint powers authority; state agency; public university; or federal agency);
- **qualifying nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations** (includes any private, nonprofit organization that qualifies for exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code, and that has among its principal charitable purposes preservation of land for scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, or open-space opportunities; or protection of the natural environment or preservation or enhancement of wildlife; or preservation of cultural and historical resources; or efforts to provide for the enjoyment of public lands); and
- **eligible tribal organizations** (includes any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, or a tribal agency authorized by a tribe, which is recognized as eligible for special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians and is identified on pages 52829 to 52835, inclusive, of Number 250 of Volume 53 (December 29, 1988) of the Federal Register, as that list may be updated or amended from time to time).

### **C. Eligible Projects**

Funds will be authorized for the planning or implementation of projects that are consistent with the provisions of these guidelines. The SNC Program Guidelines contain examples of potential projects that may be helpful in creating proposals; however, these examples are not meant to be comprehensive. The SNC Program Guidelines are available on the SNC Web site at:

<http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/docs/progguidFINWEB.pdf>.

Eligible projects must contribute to the protection or restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. The projects must also address one or more of the SNC's Program areas.

Generally, funds must be expended within the statutory boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to be eligible for funding. Certain types of projects outside the legal boundaries may also be eligible if they meet all guideline requirements of the SNC and have a direct benefit to the Region. Applicants should consult with SNC when such projects are being considered. Examples of these projects might include educational efforts or physical projects which result in tangible benefits to resources within the boundaries of the SNC.

Language concerning project eligibility, and any determinations of eligible costs (see below), are subject to applicable conditions and limitations which may later be set forth in the State Budget Act or other official guidance.

### **D. Eligible Costs**

Only direct project costs for items within the scope of the project and within the time frame of the project agreement are eligible. Project-specific performance measurements and reporting should be included in the project budget.

Eligible administrative costs must be directly related to the project and may not exceed 15 percent of the project implementation cost. To determine the amount of eligible administrative costs, the applicant must first determine the cost of implementing the project. Once the project implementation cost has been determined, the applicant may calculate administrative costs and include them in the total grant request.

### **E. Ineligible Costs**

Indirect expenditures billed as a percentage of implementation costs are not eligible for reimbursement. In addition, grant funding may not be used to:

- Address a violation of, or an order to comply with, any law or regulation;



- Implement required mitigation measures unless funding facilitates the implementation of a project that would itself be eligible for SNC Proposition 84 grant funding; or
- Pay for food or refreshments.

## **F. Grant Provisions**

Grant-eligible costs may be incurred by a recipient entity only after the entity has entered into an agreement with the SNC on the terms and conditions. Only costs incurred after a grant agreement is fully executed will be eligible for reimbursement. The SNC may provide technical assistance to the grantee to ensure efficient administration of the grant.

Work on projects funded by grants authorized in FY 08-09 must be completed and fully invoiced by no later than the date specified in the grant agreement, but in no case later than April 1, 2013.<sup>1</sup>

SNC may request that grantees provide public recognition to the SNC's Proposition 84 grant program through signage or written materials for public distribution, as appropriate.

## **G. Performance Measures and Reporting**

Performance measures are used to track progress toward project goals and desired outcomes. They provide a means of reliably measuring and reporting the outcomes and effectiveness of a project and how it contributes to SNC achieving its programmatic goals.

Applicants must propose project-specific performance measures at the time of application submittal. Further information and recommended performance measures can be found in Appendix C of each GAP. Applicants may also propose alternative performance measures, which will be subject to the approval of SNC staff if a grant is authorized. The measures will be finalized in consultation with SNC staff prior to grant agreement approval.

All grantees will be required to provide periodic progress reports and a final report. The final report must include data related to the project performance measures. See Exhibit B of the sample grant agreements at: [http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html) for additional information on the required contents of these reports.

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<sup>1</sup> This time limit is subject to final control language in the state's budget. Specific time limits for individual projects will be addressed in the project grant agreements.

## **H. Consultation and Cooperation with Local Agencies**

As required by PRC 33342, *“the SNC shall cooperate with and consult with the city or county where a grant is proposed or an interest in real property is proposed to be acquired; and shall, as necessary or appropriate, coordinate its efforts with other state agencies, non-profit organizations, and other interested parties. The SNC shall, as necessary and appropriate, cooperate and consult with a public water system that owns or operates facilities, including lands appurtenant thereto, where a grant is proposed or an interest in land is proposed to be acquired.”* The SNC will provide notification to the appropriate local government entities at the point at which a project is deemed eligible and is being considered for funding.

For all grants less than \$50,000 for projects other than acquisition or site improvement/restoration, the SNC will notify the affected county and/or city of the proposed project and request comment within 10 business days of receipt of such notification.

For all other grants, the SNC will notify the county and/or city affected and public water agency (where appropriate), and request comments within 15 business days following notification. The Subregional Board representative will also be notified at this time and may wish to communicate with the affected entities as well.

Applicants are encouraged to seek support of, or at a minimum, consult with affected local governments. The SNC will make all reasonable efforts to address concerns raised by local governments. Applications that include a project-specific resolution of support from the affected city and/or county and, if appropriate, water agency, may be deemed to have met the “cooperate and consult” requirement.

## **III. Grant Program Categories**

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy offers Proposition 84 grants in two categories: (1) Competitive Grants and (2) Strategic Opportunity Grants (SOGs). When deciding which category of grant to apply for, applicants should consider the following:

1. Type of project (acquisition or site improvement/restoration vs. other types)
2. Amount of grant request
3. Timing factors or other special needs

An applicant may not combine requests for planning, acquisition, or site improvements/restoration in a single grant request. However, applicants can break a large project into phases and submit applications for each phase, such as a SOG 2 application for an appraisal and a subsequent Competitive Grant or SOG 1 application for an acquisition. Applicants are encouraged to consult with SNC staff to determine the most appropriate type of grant opportunity for potential projects.

## **A. Competitive Grants**

Competitive Grants are authorized for acquisition or site improvement/restoration projects between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000. Applications for Competitive Grants are solicited, reviewed, and authorized by the SNC Board on an annual cycle.

Examples of potential Competitive Grant projects include:

- Prevention or amelioration of current or anticipated adverse impacts to natural resources
- Preservation and/or enhancement of agricultural, forest, rangeland, or other working landscapes
- Reduction or prevention of soil erosion
- Reduction of fuel hazards or other disaster risks with potential to detrimentally affect natural resources
- Control and elimination of invasive species
- Elimination, conversion, relocation, and/or rehabilitation of roads and trails to protect natural resources
- Improvement or construction of physical structures or facilities to protect natural resources
- Improvement of natural recharge/storage of water
- Protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat

Note: All projects must address one or more of the SNC Program goals and meet the requirements of Proposition 84 described above.

## **B. Strategic Opportunity Grants**

SOGs are intended to provide the SNC flexibility to address various needs and time-sensitive opportunities for all project types in all program areas. SOGs are available in two annual filing periods, subject to available funding. SOGs can be authorized by either the Board or the Executive Officer, depending on dollars requested and timing needs. Under certain circumstances multiple SOG grants may be treated as a block grant.

Eligible applications for SOGs are valid throughout the fiscal year in which they are submitted. An application filed but not funded in the first application cycle of the fiscal year will be deferred by the SNC for consideration in the second application cycle of the same fiscal year. Applicants may modify or add information to deferred applications, in consultation with SNC staff, until the deadline for the second application cycle. If not funded in the fiscal year in which the application was received, the applicant may submit a new application in a subsequent fiscal year.

There are two types of SOGs:

1. SOG 1 grants are available for the same project types as Competitive Grants

for projects between \$5,000 and \$250,000. They must be authorized by the Board.

2. SOG 2 grants may be used for activities other than acquisition and site improvement/restoration including, but not limited to:
  - Monitoring/Research
    - Study/report
    - Data
    - Condition assessment
    - Model/map
  - Planning
    - Plan
    - Collaborative process
    - Capacity building
  - Education/Interpretation
    - Event/program
    - Outreach materials
    - Curriculum
  - Pre-Project Due Diligence
    - Appraisal
    - CEQA/NEPA compliance
    - Environmental site assessment (Phase I/II)
    - Design/permit
    - Preliminary title report
    - Biological/other survey(s)

Note: All projects must address one or more of the SNC Program goals and meet the requirements of Proposition 84 described above.

SOG 2 requests may be any amount not to exceed \$500,000. All requests exceeding \$50,000 require Board approval. Grants of less than \$50,000 may be authorized by the Board, or by the Executive Officer in instances where there are extenuating circumstances or time constraints, and the project is ranked as high benefit by the SNC staff. The total amount of such authorizations by the Executive Officer will be limited to a maximum of \$150,000 between scheduled Board meetings, and any authorizations shall be reported to the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting.

### **C. Block Grants**

For SOGs only, an applicant may submit grant applications for “block” funding of like projects proposed by multiple eligible entities (potential subgrantees), with the object of managing the grant funding for all of the projects under a single umbrella. This approach can significantly reduce administrative cost and effort for both the SNC and the applicant, since only one SNC grant agreement would be required. Project “blocks” may include, but are not limited to, activities such as: fire safe

projects, habitat protection/enhancement efforts, mapping or other information technology projects, invasive species eradication, or educational efforts. Applicants are required to contact SNC staff in advance if they wish to pursue a block grant.

Such projects, in addition to being similar in nature, must meet Guideline requirements and must collectively fall within the applicable funding limits for an individual project in that category of grants. A summary sheet listing all of the projects, the rationale for grouping them, and the proposed managing agency must be provided along with the individual applications. Each individual project application will still be subject to review, and the SNC will reserve the right to fund a portion of the overall package.

No block grant may exceed \$500,000, inclusive of administrative costs. Administrative costs may not exceed 15 percent of eligible project implementation costs for the entire block grant (see [Eligible Costs](#), for additional information). The 15 percent limit applies to total administrative expenses for both the grantee and subgrantees.

#### **IV. Specific Requirements for Acquisition and Site Improvement / Restoration Projects**

##### **A. Acquisition Projects**

###### **1. Overview**

The SNC may make grants to public agencies, qualifying nonprofit organizations, and eligible tribal organizations to acquire an interest in real property, either fee title or a less-than-fee interest, from willing sellers only. Although the SNC is prohibited by statute (PRC 33347) from purchasing real property outright (i.e., fee title), it can fund the acquisition of fee title by other eligible entities. The SNC may also award grants for the acquisition of water rights from willing sellers. All interests to be acquired must be in perpetuity (permanent); thus, no grants will be awarded for acquisition of temporary easements, leaseholds, or the like.

Proposition 84 funds may not be used to retire debt previously incurred by an eligible applicant in connection with the applicant's acquisition of a real property interest.

###### **2. Requirements**

A grant application to acquire an interest in real property shall specify all of the following:

- (a) The intended use of the property
- (b) The manner in which the land will be managed
- (c) How the cost of ongoing management will be funded

The SNC may require applicants to provide a Phase I or Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (toxics report) on any property proposed for acquisition. Applicants are encouraged to consult with SNC staff to determine if this requirement is applicable.

In the case of a grant of funds to acquire an interest in real property (including, but not limited to, fee title), the agreement between the SNC and the recipient will require all of the following:

- (a) The purchase price of an interest in real property acquired shall not exceed fair market value as established by an appraisal which meets state standards and which is approved by the SNC. Appraisals may require more than one pre-approval review if the appraised value of the property is based on the presence of resources such as timber, mineral rights, water rights, carbon sequestration potential, and/or historic values, or the inclusion of both real and personal property.
- (b) The terms under which the interest in real property is acquired shall be subject to the SNC's approval.
- (c) An interest in real property to be acquired under the grant shall not be used as security for a debt unless the SNC approves the transaction.
- (d) The transfer of an interest in the real property shall be subject to approval of the SNC, and a new agreement sufficient to protect the public interest shall be entered into between the SNC and the transferee.

The deed or instrument by which the grantee acquires an interest in real property under the grant shall include a power of termination on the part of the SNC. The deed or instrument shall provide that the SNC may exercise the power of termination by notice in the event of the grantee's violation of the purpose of the grant through breach of a material term or condition thereof, and that, upon recordation of the notice, full title to the interest in real property identified in the notice shall immediately vest in the SNC, or in another public agency or a nonprofit organization or tribal organization designated by the SNC to which the SNC conveys or has conveyed its interest.

## **B. Site Improvement/Restoration Projects**

### **1. Overview**

As described in the "[Eligible Projects](#)" section earlier in this document, a wide array of potential projects will be considered by the SNC. Applicants are encouraged to consult with SNC staff in determining the appropriateness of potential projects.

## 2. Land Tenure

Applicants must demonstrate and document to the SNC that they have adequate tenure to, and site control of, the properties to be improved or restored.

Adequate land tenure includes, but is not necessarily limited to:

- Fee title ownership.
- An easement or license agreement, sufficient for completion of the project consistent with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
- Other agreement between the applicant and the fee title owner, or the owner of an easement in the property sufficient to give the applicant adequate site control for the purposes of the project.<sup>2</sup>
- For projects involving multiple landowners, a clearly defined process which ensures that property owner permission is obtained to complete the project.

If the land tenure requirement is met through fee title ownership or other deeded interest, the applicant shall provide a copy of the recorded deed. If property is not owned in fee title, the applicant shall provide supporting documentation (copy of lease, easement deed, or agreement, etc.) with the application in order to verify that the land tenure requirement has been met.

## 3. Land Tenure Requirements – Alternate Process

When an applicant does not have tenure at the time of application, but intends to establish tenure via an agreement that will be signed upon grant authorization, the applicant must follow the alternate land tenure process by:

- Submitting a copy of the proposed agreement at the time of application, as well as letters from the applicant and the prospective landlord in which each commits to sign the proposed agreement should the application be successful.
- Once a project has been authorized for funding, the applicant must submit a fully-executed agreement which meets the land tenure requirements within 60 days of SNC Board authorization to execute the grant agreement.

# V. **Applying for a Grant**

## A. **General Information**

All application materials and forms will be available from the SNC Web site or

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<sup>2</sup> Adequate site control is the power or authority to conduct activities that are necessary for completion of the project consistent with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

SNC offices by request (also refer to the checklist in the appropriate GAP). All application materials are due and must be delivered to the SNC headquarters office in Auburn by 5:00 PM on the application due date or postmarked no later than the due date. Please contact SNC staff to coordinate submittal and ensure receipt.

1. Pre-Application

Applicants are encouraged to consult with SNC staff at least 30 days prior to the filing deadline to receive pre-application assistance. Applicants seeking assistance should provide a pre-project description of no more than one page in length (See pre-application form on the SNC Web site or in Exhibit B of any GAP). Staff feedback can help the applicant develop a more successful application. Staff will also assign an SNC reference number to the project that should be used on all pertinent forms associated with a subsequent application for the same project.

2. Application

Applications submitted by the deadline will be evaluated by SNC staff for completeness and compliance with program requirements. An applicant may submit applications for more than one project; however, each type of project must have its own application.

**NOTE: For SOG 1 acquisition projects, appraisals must be submitted with the application. For Competitive Grant acquisition projects, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit appraisals with their applications; however, appraisals may be submitted until November 15, 2008. Applicants should be aware that appraisal submittal after September 15 may result in inadequate time for the State to review and approve the appraisal, and could lead to a project not being recommended based on this situation.**

**NOTE: All projects funded by the SNC must meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Any public agency applicant having a project subject to CEQA must submit completed CEQA compliance documents with the application. The CEQA documents must have been adopted by the lead agency. All other applicants should consult with SNC staff as soon as possible regarding the appropriate process and documents required.**

All information submitted becomes property of the SNC and part of the public record. These materials may be viewed by the public. In SNC's effort to conduct business in an open and transparent manner, application content may also be posted to the SNC Web site.

In some instances, applicants may request that certain information submitted in an application be considered confidential. Upon request of the applicant, SNC staff will determine if the information can legally be treated as confidential, and if so, will not share that information publicly.



By submitting application materials, the applicant agrees to give the SNC permission to use them for not-for-profit governmental purposes including, but not limited to, education and awareness. Examples of materials that may be used by the SNC are photographs, maps, text, graphics, and forms. This permission to SNC includes publication of printed material, television broadcasts, Web sites, or intranet. The applicant will not be compensated for such use.

## **B. Acquisition and Site Improvement/Restoration Projects**

The SNC offers grants for acquisition and site improvement/restoration projects under the Competitive Grant program and the SOG 1 program. This section outlines the process for all acquisition and site improvement/restoration funding.

To maintain fairness for all competitors, SNC staff will be able to provide information and assistance in developing Competitive Grant and SOG 1 applications only to the point of application submission. SNC staff may contact applicants after the submission deadlines to seek clarification of previously submitted items.

The most current application process information will be provided on the SNC Web site at: <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grants.html>. The GAPs for Competitive and SOG 1 Applications are available at: [http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html).

### **1. Competitive Grants**

Project applications will be solicited, reviewed, and authorized on an annual cycle.

Competitive Grants will be authorized by the SNC Board for two types of projects between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000:

- (a) Acquisition or
- (b) Site improvement/restoration

### **2. SOG 1s**

SOG 1s will be authorized by the SNC Board for acquisition and site improvement/restoration projects between \$5,000 and \$250,000. These applications may be submitted in either of the two annual filing cycles.

## **C. Other Projects**

SOG 2s are available for projects other than acquisition and site improvement/restoration projects. The application process for SOG 2s is similar to that for SOG 1s described above. The most current application process information is available at:

<http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grants.html>. The GAP for SOG 2

Applications is located at:

[http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html).

## **VI. Competitive and SOG 1 Grant Proposals Evaluation and Criteria**

As stated previously, in order to be eligible for Proposition 84 funding a project must:

a) contribute to the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources; AND b) address one or more of the seven SNC program areas.

Applicants will need to provide a written answer to each question or respond to each statement in the evaluation criteria as it pertains to the project. The criteria headings should be included in each response, i.e. Project Quality and Readiness, Land and Water Benefits, SNC Program Goals, etc., but not the questions or directions themselves.

Projects will be evaluated on the following criteria in order to determine which projects will provide the greatest contribution to achieving the SNC's mission, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 84.

The total number of points possible for each application is 100.

### **A. Project Quality and Readiness (Maximum of 20 points)**

The level of detail included in the project description should allow a person unfamiliar with the project to understand the purpose, goals, and outcomes of the project. The project description should allow for review of consistency with site plans, budget items, and maps.

#### **1. General Description**

Describe the proposed project in detail, including purpose, goals and deliverables. Stipulate specifically what work will be completed utilizing SNC grant funding. Describe methods to be used to accomplish the project and the role of applicant and all partners/contractors. Explain if implementation of the project is part of a larger plan and how it relates to other projects. Describe related activities that have been completed to date and how the project supports these efforts. Describe what steps of the project are already complete or in progress.

#### **2. Workplan and Schedule**

- (a) In the workplan, describe the specific tasks and schedule needed to complete the project.
- (b) Describe the factors affecting the project's timeline and completion, and how these factors will be addressed. Describe how the project will be implemented in a timely manner.

3. Budget

NOTE: The Budget section needs to be consistent with the Project Summary located in the appropriate GAP at:

[http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html).

- (a) Describe any monetary and/or in-kind support that is a part of the project, including the source(s) of funds already committed to the project. Provide information on any other state, federal, or local funding sought or received for the project. Cite specific dollar amounts for cash contributions or in-kind services, such as volunteer effort, technical expertise, etc. Other contributions to the project are not required for it to receive a grant; however, projects that include other sources of funds may receive higher scores.
- (b) Clarify what specific portions of the project (specific tasks, deliverables, and associated staff time), are requested to be funded by the SNC grant and what funds will be contributed by the applicant and/or others. Explain the timing of availability of all funding.
- (c) If a project depends on other funding sources, describe what has been done to date and future actions that will be taken to secure the remaining funding.
- (d) If a project does not depend on other funding sources, include a statement that funding from SNC will be sufficient to complete the project.
- (e) Describe the cost-effectiveness of the project. For example, describe how costs compare to similar projects, how the project may use existing data and resources, and how the project will save costs in the future.

4. Status of restrictions, technical documents, and agreements

Describe the status of the following and provide documentation as appropriate:

- (a) Agreements and commitments from project partners. Partnerships or collaborations deemed essential for the implementation of the grant project must be firmly established at the time of application.
- (b) Preliminary title report and negotiations of terms of sale, option to purchase, or easement with a willing seller (**acquisitions only**).
- (c) Property restrictions and/or encumbrances (such as Williamson Act contracts), easements, and mineral rights.
- (d) Necessary permits and description of land tenure held (**site improvement/restoration projects only**).

5. Long-Term Management

Properties acquired with grant funds, including less than fee title acquisitions, must be maintained to protect the value of the resource. Long-term management plans for acquired properties shall be consistent with the purposes for acquisitions. Interests in real property acquired with Proposition 84 grant funding must be in perpetuity.

Site improvements must be maintained to protect the value of the resource. Long-Term Management Plans for site improvement/restoration projects shall be for a minimum of 10 years or for a period determined to be necessary by the SNC for successful project implementation.

- (a) Describe the long-term management plan and how it will ensure that the benefits will be realized, including:
  - i. What is planned for the long-term management?
  - ii. Who will perform the long-term management? Describe the individual's or organization's experience in managing this type of resource.
  - iii. How will the ongoing management be funded?
- (b) What, if any, future modifications/improvements may be considered for the resource (e.g., habitat improvement/restoration, recreation, public access, etc.)? How would the property continue to meet the SNC program requirements with these improvements?
- (c) For conservation easements, describe who will hold the easement, the plan for stewardship, and address ongoing funding to support the terms and conditions of the stewardship plan (**acquisitions only**).
- (d) For working landscapes, describe the economic activity that is currently occurring on the landscape, and the effect the project will have on that activity.

Points will be awarded based on the degree of project quality and readiness.

**B. Land and Water Benefits (Maximum of 30 Points)**

1. Describe how the project contributes to the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. Include how the project provides direct, indirect, and long term benefits; avoids adverse impacts; and addresses existing or potential threats to water and watersheds and other natural resources. When appropriate, refer to performance measures (described in Appendix C of the GAPS) to help describe and quantify benefits.
2. Describe the sustainability of the project in the context of the surrounding watershed and land uses, including the potential impacts to the surrounding watershed and lands, and the potential impact that future activities on the surrounding watershed and lands may have on the project area.
3. If applicable (depending on project type and purpose), describe the extent to which project activities could have an impact on carbon sequestration, as a means of addressing the impacts of climate change in the Sierra and the rest of California.

Points will be awarded based on the degree to which the project benefits the resources described above.

**C. SNC Program Goals (Maximum of 30 points)**

1. Describe how the project addresses one or more of the SNC program goals listed below. Identify the primary goal(s), as well as any secondary goals, addressed by the project:
  - (a) Provide increased opportunities for tourism and recreation.
  - (b) Protect, conserve, and restore the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources.
  - (c) Aid in the preservation of working landscapes.
  - (d) Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires.
  - (e) Protect and improve water and air quality.
  - (f) Assist the regional economy through the operation of the SNC's program.
  - (g) Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public.

Points will be awarded based on the degree to which the project provides direct benefits consistent with one or more SNC program goals. Projects that provide direct benefits to multiple program goals will be awarded higher scores.

**D. Cooperation and Community Support (Maximum of 10 points)**

1. Describe demonstrated community support and project partners. Letters of support or other indications of support are encouraged, but optional. However, to be considered for the purpose of scoring they must be included in the application and written on the supporting agency's or organization's letterhead.
2. Describe the efforts to include various stakeholders in planning and/or implementation of the project.
  - (a) Consultation and cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies, including methods used to solicit participation.
  - (b) The use of stakeholders in designing and/or implementing the project, including methods used to solicit participation. Describe the involvement of youth in the project, if appropriate.
3. Describe any known project opposition with an explanation of the nature of the concerns, and any efforts that have been taken to address the concerns.
4. Explain how the project will provide educational opportunities about the Sierra Nevada, the SNC, and the project area for children, schools, and communities.
5. Describe the compatibility of the project with plans including, but not limited to, general plans, recreation plans, urban water management plans, integrated regional water management plans, community wildfire

- protection plans, and resource conservation plans, as well as the potential impact these plans may have on the long-term sustainability of the project.
6. Explain how the benefits of the completed project would be communicated to local and regional media; elected and agency officials from within the region; elected and agency officials from outside the region; non-governmental and business partners; and others.

Points will be awarded based on the degree to which the project exhibits cooperation, community support, compatibility with existing plans, and potential for educational benefits.

**E. Project Design, Management, and Sustainability (Maximum of 10 points)**

1. Describe the capability of applicant and/or partners to provide for all relevant aspects of an integrated management process that includes project planning, acquisition, restoration, monitoring, operation, and maintenance. This should include a description of the organization's structure, longevity, staffing, capability, and experience. The applicant should demonstrate that staff or partners involved in the project will utilize all the applicable basic elements of a project management process. Provide information on the following:
  - (a) Fiscal partners and their roles in the project as related to the workplan
  - (b) Applicant's or partners' demonstrated ability or type of training received to implement the proposed project
  - (c) All elements of a management process, including:
    - i. The appropriate up-front planning that demonstrates the project need
    - ii. The expertise needed to complete the project within the applicant's or its partners' organization
    - iii. Utilizing appropriate design to obtain maximum sustainability of the proposed project
    - iv. A demonstrated ability to design the project to minimize impact to the natural and cultural resources
    - v. Construction techniques that utilize aesthetic design and compatible or renewable material resources (for site improvement/restoration projects)
    - vi. A monitoring and maintenance process that keeps the proposed project at intended standards and utilizes performance measures (listed in Appendix C of the GAPS) as appropriate.
2. Describe how the project is sustainable (can be continued over a long period of time without causing damage to the environment and community). Include a description of what is occurring or planned for the surrounding watershed and lands, and the effect it may have on the project's sustainability.

3. Describe how the project is useful as a model in the program area(s) or in other parts of the Region, if appropriate (i.e. innovative partnerships, approaches, problem-solving, or research).

Points will be awarded based on the degree to which the project demonstrates adequate design, management capacity, sustainability, and utilizes innovative approaches.

#### **F. Additional Factors and Final Ranking**

Competitive grants will be recommended for authorization by the SNC Board based solely on the points received using the evaluation criteria and without regard to geographic location.

For SOG 1s, the evaluation score will be used with other factors listed below in determining a final ranking for projects:

- Geographic distribution of projects
- Distribution of projects across program areas
- Organizational and community capacity

For the purposes of final rankings, SOG 1 projects will be considered together and placed in one of three ranks: High Benefit, Medium Benefit, and Low Benefit. Based on these rankings, recommendations for authorization by the SNC Board will be made for each Subregion as well as the Region-wide area, in consultation with Board committees.

Scoring summary information will be made public at the time recommendations are publicly noticed, usually two weeks prior to the Board meeting at which action is proposed. This information may include scores, rankings, and a narrative justification for recommendations.

### **VII. SOG 2 Grant Proposals Evaluation and Criteria**

In evaluating proposals for SOG 2 funding, Project Quality and Readiness, Land and Water Benefits, and SNC Program Goals (Paragraphs A, B, and C) are primary considerations. Cooperation and Community Support, Project Management, and Additional Ranking Factors (Paragraphs D, E, and F) are secondary considerations. A point system is not used for SOG 2 applications.

#### **A. Project Quality and Readiness**

The level of detail should allow a person unfamiliar with the project to understand the purpose, goals, and outcomes of the project. The project description should allow for review of consistency with any site plans, budget items and maps.

1. General Description

Describe the proposed project in detail including purpose, goals and deliverables. Stipulate specifically what work will be completed utilizing SNC grant funding. Describe methods to be used to accomplish the project and the role of applicant and all partners/contractors. Explain if implementation of the project is part of a larger plan and how it relates to other projects. Describe related activities that have been completed to date and how the project supports these efforts. Describe what steps of the project are already complete or in progress.

2. Workplan and Schedule

(a) In the workplan, describe the specific tasks and schedule needed to complete the project.

(b) Describe the factors affecting the project timeline and completion such as availability of labor and materials, and how these factors will be addressed. Describe how the project will be implemented in a timely manner.

3. Budget

NOTE: This section needs to be consistent with the Project Summary located in the appropriate GAP at:

[http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant\\_applications.html](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/grant_applications.html).

(a) Describe any monetary and/or in-kind support that is a part of the project, including the source(s) of funds already committed to the project. Provide information on any other state, federal, or local funding sought or received for the project. Cite specific dollar amounts for cash contributions and in-kind services, such as volunteer effort, technical expertise, etc. Other contributions to the project are not required to receive a grant; however, projects that include other sources of funds will be more competitive.

(b) Clarify what portions of the project (specific tasks, deliverables, and associated staff time) are requested to be funded by the grant and what funds will be contributed by the applicant and/or others. Explain the timing of availability of all funding.

(c) If a project depends on other funding sources, describe what has been done to date and future actions that will be taken to secure the remaining funding.

(d) If a project does not depend on other funding sources, include a statement that funding from SNC will be sufficient to complete the project.

(e) Describe the cost-effectiveness of the project. For example, describe how costs compare to similar projects, how the project may use existing data and resources, and how the project will save costs in the future.



4. Status of agreements and land tenure

Describe the status of the following and provide documentation as appropriate:

- (a) Agreements and commitments from project partners. Partnerships or collaborations deemed essential for the implementation of the grant project must be firmly established at the time of application.
- (b) Indication of the land tenure held (as applicable).

**B. Land and Water Benefits**

Describe how the project contributes to the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. Include how the project provides direct, indirect and long term benefits; avoids adverse impacts; and addresses existing or potential threats to water and watersheds and other natural resources. When appropriate, refer to performance measures (described in Appendix C of the GAPs) to help describe and quantify benefits.

**C. SNC Program Goals**

- 1. Describe how the project addresses one or more of the SNC program goals listed below. Identify the primary goal(s), as well as any secondary goals, addressed by the project. Projects that provide multiple benefits will be given priority.
  - (a) Provide increased opportunities for tourism and recreation.
  - (b) Protect, conserve, and restore the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources.
  - (c) Aid in the preservation of working landscapes.
  - (d) Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires.
  - (e) Protect and improve water and air quality.
  - (f) Assist the regional economy through the operation of the SNC's program.
  - (g) Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public.

**D. Cooperation and Community Support**

- 1. Describe demonstrated community support and project partners. Letters of support or other indications of support are encouraged, but optional. However, to be considered for the purpose of evaluation they must be included in the application and written on the supporting agency's or organization's letterhead.
- 2. Describe the efforts to include various stakeholders in planning and/or implementation of the project.
  - (a) Consultation and cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies, including methods used to solicit participation.

- (b) The use of stakeholders in designing and/or implementing the project, including methods used to solicit participation. Describe the involvement of youth in the project, if appropriate.
3. Describe any known project opposition with an explanation of the nature of the concerns, and any efforts that have been taken to address the concerns.
4. Explain how the project will provide educational opportunities about the Sierra Nevada, the SNC, and the project area for children, schools, and communities.
5. Describe the compatibility of the project with plans including, but not limited to, general plans, recreation plans, urban water management plans, integrated regional water management plans, community wildfire protection plans, and resource conservation plans, as well as the potential impact these plans may have on the long term sustainability of the project.
6. Explain how the benefits of the completed project would be communicated to local and regional media; elected and agency officials from within the region; elected and agency officials from outside the region; non-governmental and business partners; and others.

**E. Project Management**

Describe the capability of applicant and/or partners to provide for all relevant aspects of an integrated management process that ensures successful project planning and implementation. This should include a description of the organization's structure, longevity, staffing, capability, and experience. The applicant should demonstrate that staff or partners involved in the project will utilize all the applicable basic elements of a project management process. Provide information on the following:

1. Fiscal partners and their roles in the project as related to the workplan
2. Applicant's or partners' demonstrated ability or type of training received to implement the proposed project

**F. Additional Factors and Final Ranking**

The following additional evaluation factors may be taken into consideration in project ranking:

- Geographic distribution of projects
- Distribution of projects across program areas
- Organizational and community capacity

For the purposes of final rankings, SOG 2 projects will be considered together and placed in one of three ranks: High Benefit, Medium Benefit, and Low Benefit. Based on these rankings, recommendations for authorization by the SNC Board will

be made for each Subregion as well as the Region-wide area, in consultation with Board committees.

Ranking summary information will be made public at the time recommendations are publicly noticed, usually two weeks prior to the Board meeting at which action is proposed. This information may include project rankings and a narrative justification for recommendations.

## APPENDIX A

### **Program Geographic Area**

Project must be located in, or partly in, the boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Region to be eligible. PRC Section 33302 (f) defines the Sierra Nevada Region as the area lying within the Counties of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Tehama, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yuba, bounded as follows:

On the east by the eastern boundary of the State of California; the crest of the White/Inyo ranges; and State Routes 395 and 14 south of Olancha; on the south by State Route 58, Tehachapi Creek, and Caliente Creek; on the west by the line of 1,250 feet above sea level from Caliente Creek to the Kern/Tulare County line; the lower level of the western slope's blue oak woodland, from the Kern/Tulare County line to the Sacramento River near the mouth of Seven-Mile Creek north of Red Bluff; the Sacramento River from Seven-Mile Creek north to Cow Creek below Redding; Cow Creek, Little Cow Creek, Dry Creek, and the Shasta National Forest portion of Bear Mountain Road, between the Sacramento River and Shasta Lake; the Pit River Arm of Shasta Lake; the northerly boundary of the Pit River watershed; the southerly and easterly boundaries of Siskiyou County; and within Modoc County, the easterly boundary of the Klamath River watershed; and on the north by the northern boundary of the State of California; excluding both of the following:

- (1) The Lake Tahoe Region, as described in Section 66905.5 of the Government Code, where it is defined as "Region."
- (2) The San Joaquin River Parkway, as described in Section 32510.

See: <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/maps.html> for a general map of the Region; however applicants should contact staff to verify whether project is located in an eligible area.

## APPENDIX B

### **Glossary of Terms**

Unless otherwise stated, the terms used in the SNC Proposition 84 Grants Guidelines and Grants Application Packets shall have the following meanings:

Acquisition – To obtain ownership of the fee title or any other permanent interest in real property, including easements and development rights. Leaseholds and rentals do not constitute Acquisition.

Applicant – Eligible entities as defined by the SNC Program.

Application – The individual application form and its required attachments for grants pursuant to the SNC Program.

Appraisal - An estimate of the value of real property for sale or acquisition.

Authorized Representative – The officer authorized in the Resolution to sign all required grant documents including, but not limited to, the grant agreement, the application form, and payment requests. The authorized representative may designate an alternate by informing SNC in writing.

Biological /Other Survey - An evaluation or collection of data regarding the conditions in an area using surveys and other direct measurements.

Board – The governing body of the SNC as established by PRC Section 33321.

Bond or Bond Act - Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coast Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Public Resources Code Section 75001 et seq.).

Capacity Building - Actions or support provided to entities that have need to develop specific skills or competencies or to generally improve performance or organizational/community effectiveness.

Capital Improvement Projects - Projects that utilize grant funds for acquisition of land or site improvement/restoration.

CEQA – The California Environmental Quality Act as set forth in the Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. CEQA is a law establishing policies and procedures that require agencies to identify, disclose to decision makers and the public, and attempt to lessen significant impacts to environmental and historical resources that may occur as a result of a proposed project to be undertaken, funded, or approved by a local or state agency. For more information, refer to: <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/>.

CEQA/NEPA Compliance - Activities an entity performs to meet the requirements of CEQA or NEPA.

Collaborative Process - Willing cooperation between stakeholders with different interests to solve a problem or make decisions that cut across jurisdictional or other boundaries; often used when information is widely dispersed and no single individual, agency or group has sufficient resources to address the issue alone.

Competitive – A process whereby projects are ranked and selected on the basis of program-specific criteria.

Condition Assessment - Characterization of the current state or condition of a particular resource.

Conservancy – The Sierra Nevada Conservancy as defined in Public Resources Code Section 33302 (b).

Conservation Easement - Any limitation in a deed, will or other instrument in the form of an easement, restriction, covenant or condition which is or has been executed by or on behalf of the owner of the land subject to such easement and is binding upon the successive owners of such land, and the purpose of which is to retain land predominantly in its natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested or open-space condition. (Civil Code Section 815.1)

Curriculum - The set of courses or specific learning programs available at a school or university.

Data - A body or collection of facts, statistics, or other items of information from which conclusions can be drawn.

Design/Permit - Preliminary project planning or identification of methodologies or processes to achieve project goals, and the process of obtaining any regulatory approvals or permits necessary from appropriate governmental agencies in order to conduct the work of the project.

Easement - An interest in land entitling the holder thereof to a limited use or enjoyment of the land in which the interest exists, or to restrict the use or enjoyment of the land by the owner of the fee title.

Education/Interpretation - A visitor-serving amenity that educates and communicates the significance and value of natural, historical and cultural resources in a way that increases the understanding and enjoyment of these resources and that may utilize the expertise of a naturalist or other specialist skilled at educational interpretation.

Eligible Costs – Expenses incurred by the grantee during the agreement performance period of an approved agreement, which may be reimbursed by the SNC.

Enhancement - Modification of a site to increase/improve the condition of streams, forests, habitat and other resources.

Environmental Site Assessment - Phase I, Phase II or other reports which identify potential or existing contamination liabilities on the underlying land or physical improvements of a real estate holding.

Event/Program - A planned, coordinated activity or group of activities designed for a specific audience to achieve a specific goal.

Executive Officer - The person appointed the manager of the SNC.

Fair Market Value - The value placed upon property as supported by an appraisal that has been reviewed and approved by the California Department of General Services or other designated authority.

Fee Title - Land ownership that gives an owner maximum interest in the land and that entitles the owner to use the property consistent with federal, state and local laws and ordinances.

Fiscal Sponsor - An organization that is eligible to receive SNC Proposition 84 grants and is willing to assume fiscal responsibility for a grant project, although another entity would carry out the grant scope of work.

Grant - Funds made available to a grantee for eligible costs during an agreement performance period.

Grant Agreement - An agreement between the SNC and the grantee specifying the payment of funds by the SNC for the performance of the project scope within the agreement performance period by the grantee.

Grant Agreement Performance Period - The period of time during which the eligible costs may be incurred under the grant, and in which the work described in the grant scope must be completed.

Grant Agreement Term - The period of time that includes the agreement performance period, plus time for all work to be billed and paid by the state. This period is the same as the beginning and ending dates of the agreement.

Grantee - An entity that has an agreement for grant funds.

Grant Scope - Description of the items of work to be completed with grant funds as described in the application form and cost estimate.

Historical Resource - Includes, but is not limited to, any building, structure, site, area,

place, artifact, or collection of artifacts that is historically or archaeologically significant from a statewide perspective.

Infrastructure Development/Improvement - The physical improvement of real property, including the construction of facilities or structures (such as bridges, trails, culverts, buildings, etc.).

In-kind Contributions– Non-monetary donations that are utilized on the project, including materials and services. These donations shall be eligible as “other sources of funds” when providing budgetary information for application purposes.

Land Tenure – Legal ownership or other rights in land, sufficient to allow a grantee to conduct activities that are necessary for completion of the project consistent with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement. Examples include: fee title ownership; an easement for completion of the project consistent with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement; or agreements or a clearly defined process where the applicant has adequate site control for the purposes of the project.

Model/Map - Representations to visually show the organization, appearance or features of an area or subject.

Monitoring/Research - To search, observe or record an operation or condition with tools that have no effect upon the operation or condition.

Natural Resource Protection - Those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to rivers, lakes, and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources, or those actions necessary to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural resources and includes acquisition, restoration, preservation and education.

NEPA – The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. NEPA is a federal law requiring consideration of the potential environmental effects of proposed project whenever a federal agency has discretionary jurisdiction over some aspect of that project. For more information, refer to: <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/nepanet.htm>.

Nonprofit Organization - A private, nonprofit organization that qualifies for exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code, and that has among its principal charitable purposes preservation of land for scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, or open-space opportunities; or protection of the natural environment or preservation or enhancement of wildlife; or preservation of cultural and historical resources; or efforts to provide for the enjoyment of public lands.

Other Sources of Funds - Cash or in-kind contributions necessary or used to complete the acquisition or site improvement/restoration project beyond the grant funds provided by this program.



Outreach Materials - Audio, visual and written materials developed to help explain a particular topic or subject.

Performance Measure – A quantitative or qualitative metric used by the SNC to track progress toward project goals and desired outcomes.

Plan - A document or process describing a set of actions to address specific needs or issues or create specific benefits.

Planning - The act or process of creating a plan.

Pre-Project Due Diligence - The analysis necessary to identify all aspects influencing a project and determine the risks associated with a project.

Preservation - Rehabilitation, stabilization, restoration, development, and reconstruction, or any combination of those activities.

Project – The work to be accomplished with grant funds.

Project Coordinator – An employee of the SNC who acts as a liaison with the applicants or grantees and administers grant funds, ensuring compliance with guidelines and the grant agreement.

Proposition 84 - See Bond.

Public Agencies – Any city, county, district, or joint powers authority; State agency; public university; or federal agency.

Region – The Sierra Nevada Region as defined in Public Resources Code Section 33302 (f).

Region-wide – Providing benefits that affect the overall breadth of the SNC Region or multiple Subregions within the Region.

Resource Protection - Those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to natural, cultural, historical or archaeological resources, or those actions necessary to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or resources, such as acquisition, development, restoration, preservation or interpretation.

Restoration - Activities that initiate, accelerate or return the components and processes of a damaged site to a previous historical state, a contemporary standard or a desired future condition including, but not limited to, projects for the control of erosion, the control and elimination of exotic species, fencing out threats to existing or restored natural resources, road elimination, and other plant and wildlife habitat improvement.

Site Improvements - Project activities involving the physical improvement or restoration of land.

SNC – Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Stewardship Plan - A plan to provide ongoing implementation and management associated with the acquisition of a conservation easement or site improvement/restoration project.

Study/Report - Research or the detailed examination and analysis of a subject.

Subgrantee – An entity that enters into a contractual or grantor/grantee relationship with another entity receiving a block grant from the SNC for the purpose of carrying out a portion of the scope of work of the block grant.

Total Cost – The amount of the Other Sources of Funds combined with the SNC Grant request amount that is designated and necessary for the completion of a project.

Trail – A thoroughfare or track for pedestrian (including assistive mobility devices), skating or skateboarding, equestrian, skiing, canoeing, kayaking, bicycling or off-highway vehicle activities.

Tribal Organization – An Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, or a tribal agency authorized by a tribe, which is recognized as eligible for special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians and is identified on pages 52829 to 52835, inclusive, of Number 250 of Volume 53 (December 29, 1988) of the Federal Register, as that list may be updated or amended from time to time.

Working Landscape(s) - Lands producing goods and commodities from the natural environment (such as farms, ranches, and forests in timber production). For many communities, these lands are an important part of the local economy, culture, and social fabric.

Working Landscape Preservation - Actions that preserve activities occurring on ranches, farms, and forestlands that result in sustainable economic, ecological, and social benefits to communities, people, and their environments.